



Publication number : **0 617 360 A3**

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

Application number : **94480013.5**

Int. Cl.⁵ : **G06F 9/44**

Date of filing : **22.02.94**

Priority : **23.03.93 US 36117**

Date of publication of application :
28.09.94 Bulletin 94/39

Designated Contracting States :
AT BE CH DE ES FR GB IT LI NL SE

Date of deferred publication of search report :
01.02.95 Bulletin 95/05

Applicant : **International Business Machines Corporation**
Old Orchard Road
Armonk, N.Y. 10504 (US)

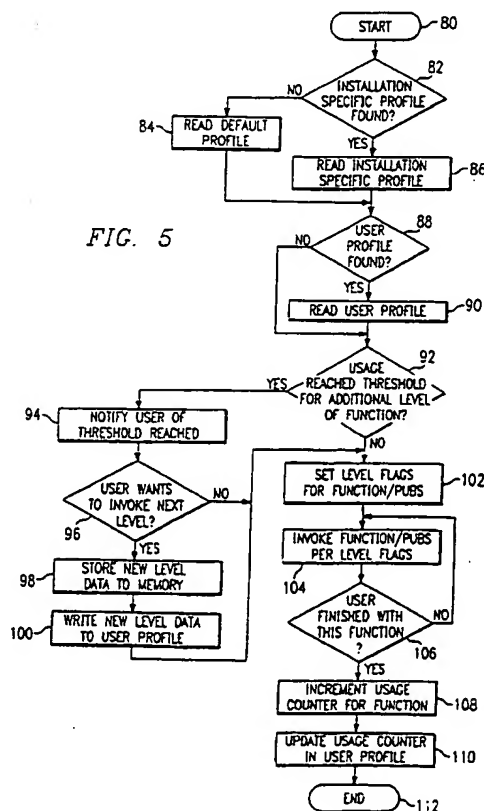
Inventor : **Collia, Sherry S.**
3967 Arbol Court
Boulder, Colorado 80301 (US)
Inventor : **Fitzpatrick, Greg P.**
3400 Western Center Boulevard 32010
Ft Worth, TX 76137 (US)
Inventor : **Sterret, William R.**
3663 Janlyn
Dallas, TX 75234 (US)

Representative : **de Pena, Alain**
Compagnie IBM France
Département de Propriété Intellectuelle
F-06610 La Gaude (FR)

Method and apparatus for presenting new computer software functions to a user based upon actual usage.

A method is provided for introducing to a user a new/enhanced function of a computer software application. After learning the basics of a computer software application, new/enhanced functions are presented to the user based upon completion of predetermined criteria. The predetermined criteria may comprise the passage of time or the completion of a specified number of uses of a certain function.

FIG. 5





European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 94 48 0013

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. CL.5)
X	EP-A-0 367 709 (IBM) * the whole document *	1-12	G06F9/44
X	EP-A-0 499 567 (IBM) * the whole document *	1-12	
A	EP-A-0 323 381 (IBM) * page 2, line 60 - page 8, line 37 *	1-12	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL.5)
			G06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 28 November 1994	Examiner Fonderson, A
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 150 (04/92) (PCT/CH)